

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5117

ANSWERED ON:05.04.2017

Telecom Network

Gopal Dr. K.

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to lay down uniform rules for rolling out telecom network across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the proposed policy aims to facilitate expeditious roll out of telecom infrastructure so as to help improve quality of service, reduce call drops as well as cost of setting up networks; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS &
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) to (d) The rules notified by the Central Government in respect of telecom sector as well as regulations/ orders issued by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) in exercise of powers conferred under the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997, including those for rolling out telecom network, are uniformly applicable across the country.

In order to facilitate expeditious roll out of telecom infrastructure so as to improve quality of service, reduce call drops as well as reducing cost of setting up networks, the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has issued Guidelines for issue of clearances for installation of Mobile Towers. These guidelines had also been forwarded to Chief Secretaries of all the State Governments for uniform implementation. In addition, the matter had also been taken up with all the State Governments citing "Digital India" and "m-Governance" programs for providing:

- (i) single window clearances for setting up telecom infrastructure;
- (ii) space in government buildings for mobile telephone sites;
- (iii) speedy Right of Way (RoW) clearances.

Further, in addition to initiating a nation-wide awareness programme on "EMF (Electro Magnetic Field) Emissions & Telecom Towers" to build a direct bridge of engagement between different stakeholders and to fill the information gap with scientific evidence, DoT has taken many policy initiatives to improve mobile services, which, inter-alia, include :

- (i) permitting Spectrum Sharing & Trading;
- (ii) liberalisation of administratively allocated spectrum;
- (iii) permitting active infrastructure sharing; etc.

In order to address the issue of call drops and quality of service, the Government has also taken initiatives in respect of facilitating roll out of telecom infrastructure by allowing Central Government Buildings/ Estate, NDMC (New Delhi Municipal Council) Buildings/ Estate in Lutyens Zone, Delhi, as well as allowing Defence Estate and Postal Buildings across the country for installation of mobile towers/ Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs).
